Amendments to the Claims:

In summary, claims 1-11, 14, 16, 18-22 and 24 are canceled, and new claims 26-37 are added as follows:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, with the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), CO-N$(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

13. (Previously presented) The implant of claim 12 wherein the fluorocarbon is a perfluorocarbon or a partially fluorinated alkane.

14. (canceled) The implant of claim 12 wherein the fluorocarbon is an oligomer.

15. (Previously presented) The implant of claim 12 wherein the surface-active agent is soluble in the fluorocarbon and contains linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms, and wherein the fluorocarbon and the surface-active agent contain less than 30% of a fluorinated surface-active agent.

~~16~~. (canceled) The implant of claim 12 wherein the gel has a viscosity to density ratio greater than 0.1 Pa cm^3/g and lower than 3 Pa cm^3/g.

~~17~~. (amended) The implant of claim ~~16~~ 27 wherein the ratio is lower than 1 Pa cm^3/g.

~~18~~. (canceled) The implant of claim 12 wherein after liquefaction the gel structure is reversible and can be completely restored.

~~19~~. (canceled) The implant of claim 12 wherein the implant is an ophthalmologic implant.

20. (canceled) The implant of claim 19 wherein the implant is a vitreous body or lens replacement.

21. (canceled) The implant of claim 20 wherein the implant is permeable by water-soluble and ionic compounds and has a refractive index in a range from 1.334 to 1.338 and a specific weight greater than 1.05 g/cm^3.

22. (canceled) The implant of claim 12 wherein the implant is a dental implant.

23. (amended) The implant of claim ~~22~~ 30 wherein the implant is configured and dimensioned for filling extraction cavities in the jaw bone.

24. (canceled) The implant of claim 12 wherein the implant is a tissue expander.

25. (amended) A method of ~~performing oxygen therapy of~~ treating tissue comprising the steps of inserting ~~the~~ an implant formed ~~of~~ in accordance with claim 12 into a bodily orifice located proximal ~~the~~ tissue to be treated, and treating the tissue to be treated with an oxygen therapy.

~~26~~. (new) (Previously presented) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, with

the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon oligomer, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), CO-N$(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

27. (new) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, with the gel having a polyaphron structure, a viscosity to density ratio greater than 0.1 Pa cm^3/g and lower than 3 Pa cm^3/g. and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), CO-N$(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

28. (new) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, and

wherein after liquefaction the gel structure is reversible and can be completely restored,

with the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), CO-N$(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

29. (new) A plastically deformable ophthalmologic implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body as a vitreous body or lens replacement, the implant being permeable by water-soluble and ionic compounds and having a refractive index in a range from 1.334 to 1.338 and a specific weight greater than 1.05 g/cm^3, and formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, with the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), CO-N$(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

30. (new) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body as a dental implant, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, with the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), $CO\text{-}N(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

31. (new) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening as a tissue expander, with the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), $CO\text{-}N(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

31. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 12, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

32. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 26, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

33. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 27, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

34. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 28, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

35. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 29, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

36. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 30, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

37. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 31, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

Rule 1.126

32 ~~31~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 12, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

33 ~~32~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 26, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

34 ~~33~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 27, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

35 ~~34~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 28, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

36 ~~35~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 29, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

37 ~~36~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 30, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

38 ~~37~~. (new) Method for treating a human or animal body comprising forming an implant as defined in claim 31, and implanting said implant into a bodily orifice of a human or animal.

12. (New) A plastically deformable implant for insertion into bodily orifices of a human or animal body, the implant formed by a gel which is not sealed and is directly introduced into a natural or artificially created bodily opening, with the gel having a polyaphron structure and comprising a fluorocarbon, water, and a minimum of one fluorinated surface-active agent of the general formula R_FF_{pol}, wherein:

R_F stands for linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms;

R_{pol} stands for a polar hydrocarbon residue with a minimum of one functional group which is selected from the group consisting of CO-NH(R), $CO\text{-}N(R)_2$, COO-, COOR, SO_3-, $SO_2N(R)_2$, and CH_2-O-R, PO_2H, PO_3H (R = alkyl); and

the surface-active agent has a molecular weight of >400 g/mol, a surface tension in aqueous solution of <30 mN/m, an interfacial tension in aqueous solution with respect to the non-polar component of <25 mN/m, and a concentration of <0.3%.

13. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the fluorocarbon is a perfluorocarbon or a partially fluorinated alkane.

14. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the fluorocarbon is an oligomer.

15. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the surface-active agent is soluble in the fluorocarbon and contains linear or branched perfluoroalkyl groups with more than 5 carbon atoms, and wherein the fluorocarbon and the surface-active agent contain less than 30% of a fluorinated surface-active agent.

16. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the gel has a viscosity to density ratio greater than 0.1 Pa cm^3/g and lower than 3 Pa cm^3/g.

17. (New) The implant of claim 16 wherein the ratio is lower than 1 Pa cm^3/g.

18. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein after liquefaction the gel structure is reversible and can be completely restored.

19. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the implant is an ophthalmologic implant.

20. (New) The implant of claim 19 wherein the implant is a vitreous body or lens replacement.

21. (New) The implant of claim 20 wherein the implant is permeable by water-soluble and ionic compounds and has a refractive index in a range from 1.334 to 1.338 and a specific weight greater than 1.05 g/cm^3.

22. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the implant is a dental implant.

23. (New) The implant of claim 22 wherein the implant is configured and dimensioned for filling extraction cavities in the jaw bone.

24. (New) The implant of claim 12 wherein the implant is a tissue expander.

25. (New) A method of performing oxygen therapy of tissue comprising the step of inserting the implant of claim 12 into a bodily orifice located proximal the tissue.

Remarks

The specification has been amended to add section headings. The claims have been canceled and new claims have been added to conform the claims to United States patent practice and remove multiple dependencies. No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Fleit, Reg. #16,900
By: Paul D. Bianco, Reg. #43,500

Martin Fleit
FLEIT KAIN GIBBONS GUTMAN & BONGINI
520 Brickell Key Drive #A201
Miami, Florida 33131
Tel: 305-536-9020; Fax: 305-536-9022
e-mail: MFleit@FleitKain.com